### Amusemenis.

ABBEY'S THEATRE-S-King Henry III.
ACADEMY OF MUSIC-S-In Old Kentucky.
AMFRICAN ART GALLERIES-9 a. m. to 6 p. m., and
7.30 to 10 p. m.-Paintings.
AMERICAN THEATRE-S-The Prodigal Daughter. MOU THEATRE-8:15-A Parlor Match. BROADWAY THEATRE-8-Erminie

CASINO-8:15-The Princess Nicotin COLUMBUS THEATRE—S-Sport McAllister.
DALY'S THEATRE—8:15—The Algerian.
DORE GALLERY, 53d-st. and 7th-ave.—Exhibition, EDEN MUSEE-2:30-8-World in Wax. EMPIRE THEATRE-8:15-The Councillor's Wife.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE—8:15—Shore Acres.

GARDEN THEATRE—8:15—The Professor's Love Story. GRAND CENTRAL PALACE-11 a, m, to 11 p, m,-Ex HARLEM OPERA HOUSE-8-Americans Abroad.
HARRIGAN'S THEATRE-8-The Wollen Stocking.

HERRMANN'S THEATRE-S-Vaudeville.

HOYT'S MADISON SQUARE THEATRE-8:30-A Tem
perance Town.

IMPERIAL MUSIC HALL—8-Vaudeville. IRVING PLACE THEATRE—8:15-Der Vogelhaendier. OSTER & BIAL'S-S-Vaudeville. LYCEUM THEATRE-8:15-An American Duches NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN-Exhibition.
NEW METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE-S-Lucia Di

NIBLO'S-8:15-Olaf. PALMER'S THEATRE-8:15 -1492. STANDARD THEATRE-8:30-Charley's Aunt. STAR THEATRE-8-The Three Guardsmen.
TATTERSALL'S, 55th-st, and 7th-ave.-2:30-8:15-Hagen
beck's Trained Animals. TONY PASTOR'S THEATRE-S-Vaudeville, 14TH STREET THEATRE-S-The Power of Gold.

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TRIBUNE TERMS TO MAIL SUBSCRIBERS.

Stated.

CITY POSTAGE —The law requires that a 1 cent postage
stamp be affixed to every copy of the Daily, Sunday,
or Semi-Weekly Tribme mailed for local delivery in
New-York City. This postage must be paid by subgeriber. Readers are better served by buying their scriber. Reader's arrival service of the control of

Note, if sent in an unregistered letter, will be at the owner's risk.

BACK NUMBERS.—For Eack Numbers of the Daily and Sunday papers more than a week old an extra price is charged on account of the cost of storage.

OFFICES OF THE TRIBUNE.—Main office of The Tribune. 154 Nassau-st. New-York. Main uptown office. 1.242 Broadway. Address all correspondence simply "The Tribune." New-York.

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### BRANCH OFFICES.

Sth-ave., s. e. cor. 23d-st.
6th-ave., cor. 12th-st.
Columbus-ave., near West 66th-st.
West 42d-st., near 6th-ave.
West 42d-st., between 7th and 8th aves.
4th-ave., sogner, 14th-st. dave, corner 14th at. 6th a dave, between 75th and 75th ats. bave, between 75th and 75th ats. bave, mar 61st at. Malaye, near Gist-si.
Shave, near Gist-si.
East 47th-si., corner 3d-ave.
Fast 125th-si.
West 125th-si.
West 125th-si.
Shave, near Sint-si.
3d-ave, near East 37th-si.
Avenue A, between 2d and 4th sts.
Canal-si. and 157 Division-si.
Fleecker-si., near Christopher-si.
Gd-ave, between 112th and 113th sts.

BROOKLYN OFFICES. 397 Pulton-st., 1,152 Myrtle-ave., 63 Court-st., 1,184 Hord-ave., 415 Bridge-st.

## New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1893.

### TEN PAGES.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Foreign.-Muley Araaf, the Moorish Sultan's brother, has pacified the Rifflans; the Spanish army will probably return without having fought a battle. - Deputy Le Bon will be Minister of Colonies in the new French Ministry. Signor Zanardelli has almost completed the new Italian Cabinet; all the members belong to the Left. = Anarchists were prevented by the police from holding a demonstration in Trafalgar Square, London.

Domestic,-James J. Van Alen has resigned his place as Ambassador to Italy. = The reports of J. H. Eckels, Controller of the Currency, and of the Interstate Commerce Commission were made public, === The wellknown racing mare Yo Tambien has been sold to George V. Hankins, of Chicago, for \$18,000. Snowstorms prevailed in the East and in Falls. \_\_\_ A heavy fall of snow interfered likely to operate. with the movement of freight trains on the Lehigh Valley Railroad. - The revenue cutter Corwin has been ordered to make ready for a voyage, supposed to be to Honolulu.

City and Suburban.-Senator David B. Hill is quoted as using extremely bitter language about Croker, Murphy and Sheehan, = Flatbush, L. I., policeman committed suicide. = The Rev. John L. Scudder, of Jersey City, and the Rev. Madison C. Peters, of this city, preached sermons denouncing the interference of the Catholic Church with the American public-school system.

The Weather.-Forecast for to-day: Rain, followed by clearing; colder. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 45 degrees; lowest, 22; average,

If the Democratic bosses do any counting-out of Senators this year, they will have to undertake some pretty tall work and set about it at an early day. As will be seen by our Albany correspondent's letter, on another page, the Republican Senatorial candidates have, as a rule, good-sized majorities behind them, the smallest being 654 in the IVth District, 675 in the XVth and 942 in the XXXth. On what pretext can these majorities be wiped out and Democratic candidates counted in?

In his first annual report, Mr. Eckels, the Controller of the Currency, has a hearty word of commendation for the prompt and timely acof the New-York Clearing House Association in the issue of loan certificates to a large amount to tide over the monetary crisis last summer. It led the way in this matter, and is entitled to all the praise it has received. Mr. Eckels asserts that in no case did these certificates circulate as money. On the contrary, we understand that in some parts of the South such certificates were issued for small amounts and served as a general circulating

A duty of grave importance will rest upon the December Grand Jury in this city. It is the duty of carefully and impartially investigating the election frauds perpetrated in sev- them righteously settled would be to provide

eral districts last month. The commission of these frauds is notorious. Whether legal proof thereof can be adduced is for the Grand Jury to find out. The offer of prizes by Tammany leaders for the largest percentage of Democratic votes in Assembly districts and in election districts was a direct incentive to fraud, and it is a question whether the men who made the offer did not violate the Corrupt Practices act in so doing. It is for the Grand Jury to satisfy themselves on this point also. The welfare of the public calls for a thoroughgoing inquiry, no matter who may be hurt by it.

Evidently something new is hatching in the Hawaiian imbroglio. Else why the secret orders to the revenue cutter Corwin, at San Francisco, to fit out at once for a voyage of 2,000 miles-which can only mean that her destination will be Honolulu? This proceeding ting aside Judge Pratt's ruling in the Long Islis a part of the Administration's Hawaiian mystery play, and strongly suggests the dispatching of Blount on the Rush last spring. Can it be that Mr. Cleveland is sending forth another Paramount Commissioner?

Mr. Van Alen has relieved himself from the untenable position in which the President and Mr. Whitney had contrived to place him by resigning the Italian Embassy, which they gave him in return for his large subscription to the Democratic campaign fund. Mr. Van Alen thus comes out of the complication better than anybody else concerned in it. He was absolutely unfamiliar with politics and with public affairs, and might fairly be thought not to have fully comprehended at first the nature of the transaction in which he was being involved. The same thing cannot be said of Mr. Cleveland, who knew perfectly well what he was doing, and whose pretence now that he appointed Mr. Van Alen because of his conspicuous fitness, and not because of his large subscription, is as impudent and as pharisaical as anything he has ever given the public. Mr. Van Alen is a gentleman of unexceptionable character, and deserved only respect and sympathy when assailed with coarse personal abuse by Mr. Cleveland's own supporters after the extraordinary transaction first became known.

#### CONGRESS AND ITS WORK.

It is with solicitude rather than hope that the people are looking forward to the next session of Congress. Their experience with the domipant and responsible party in that body has been anything but reassuring. If they could not obtain from it after months of consideration a result which it had repeatedly promised to give, the public demand for which was evidently intense and overwhelming, what warrant is there to expect now a truer concern for the public welfare or a fairer response to the popular will? It was not the party that had promised to repeal the purchasing clause of the Silver act by whose votes the repeal was accomplished. It was not the responsible party in power which came to the relief of the country's business and checked the panic that overtook its affairs. On the contrary, a majority of that party in each of the houses voted for a further inflation of the currency by dishonest money What that party will now do is a question for the solution of which enterprise waits, capital holds back, labor pauses in enforced idleness and the whole people are filled with anxiety. Problems of the highest importance clamor

for the attention of Congress. The tariff question is one that must be properly settled before the country can possibly regain its late prosperity. The bill that has been outlined by the Democratic majority of the Ways and Means Committee is neither fish, flesh nor fowi. It is in almost all respects unsatisfactory to Protectionists, though there is a great deal of Protection in it. It must be unsatisfactory to Free Traders unless they are utterly false to their professions. It is not what the Democratic party declared to the country it would adopt, for its platform pronounced Protection to any Yet it does protect with a discrimination that is are already inadequate to the Government's necessities. It is a hodge-podge, an intricate web of inconsistencies and compromises. It abandons the Reciprocity principle, and gives for nothing a market here, admission to which has already provided our exporters with peculiar and exceptional advantages in other markets and which might have been used, especially with Canada, greatly to promote our trade where, in this bill, it is hindered and injured. And yet already it is given out that this bill is to be rushed through Congress without fair debate, without fair opportunity for amendment, and, indeed, without affording the country the West; two feet of snow fell at Niagara | chance to know how many of its provisions are

The Hawaiian question will also demand prompt attention, and in this matter at least, involving, as it does, our relations with foreign countries and the formation of a definite foreign policy that cannot fail to have a bearing elsewhere around our coasts than in the Paeific, it is immensely to be hoped and desired that the spirit of partisanship will be suppressed, and that Congress will bring to the matter a conscientious, enlightened and patriotic judgment. The policy of the Administration is unknown except in so far as Mr. Gresham's letter to the President may be presumed to suggest it. The proposition he has made is no solution of the question at all. If it were carried out it would still leave our relations to Hawaii undetermined, and the policy we mean to pursue toward the islands around our coast as much open to doubt as ever. It is not only an idle proposition, but it is repulsive, un-American and unjust. The United States has no right to impose any government upon Hawaii unless from annexation that right is derived. So long as any other than the American flag floats over those islands they are foreign territory, and as much to be respected as the soil of England or Germany. The claim that the monarchy was overthrown as the result of our interference is false in the first place and irrelevant in the second. If it were true it would not justify more interference, and especially would it fail to justify acts of injury to a Government which has existed on its merits for many months, which has been duly recognized by all the Powers, including the United States; an excellent Government, ad- holders. If it cannot make profits for them at ministering to the welfare of the Hawaiians. whether native or foreign born, and a Government conducted by our own flesh and blood and on lines similar to those established by our own by selling its products at 6% cents per yard. Constitution. Nothing could justify the overthrow of this Government and the substitution therefor of the rule of ignorance, avarice, corruption and vice under monarchical forms.

These two great problems, if there were n others, would be worthy of the best intelligence of which our statesmen are capable. To have in the best and highest sense for the welfare of the American Nation.

TWO JOBS BEATEN.

Last week two decisions of the courts gave the deathblow to two jobs which, if they had been successful, would have cost the cities of New-York and Brooklyn millions of money. These decisions, taken in connection with the recent unmistakable declaration of the people in favor of a pure judiciary, afford convincing proof that in the courts the people may still have full confidence, and that the attempts of crafty and unscrupulous politicians to manipulate the courts and use them for their own purposes are foredoomed to failure. The first of these decisions was that of the Court of Appeals in the Aqueduct case, the second was that of the General Term in the Second District, setand Water Supply litigation.

By the first this city is saved the sum of \$6,000,000 or \$7,000,000. The action was brought by O'Brien & Clark, Aqueduct contractors, to recover a large amount for alleged extra work on the great tunnel through which the Croton water is now brought to the city. As the work in question was necessary to the proper completion of the Aqueduct, the City contested the claim of the contractors, and contended that nothing was due them beyond the amount called for by the terms of the contract. The suit was decided in the city's favor at the Special Term and again at the General Term; and last week's decision by the Court of Appeals settles the question finally, inasmuch as it was stipulated that the case just passed on should be regarded as a test case, and that all the other suits involving the same issues should stand or fall by this one.

The Brooklyn decision is even more significant, although the amount of money involved is by no means so large. The Water Supply job assumed great importance about the middle of Mayor Chapin's second term, three years ago, and the resulting scandal caused him to be set aside as a candidate for the Mayoralty in the following year, although he was exceedingly anxious for a "vindication," Chapin, together with the Controller and City Auditor. made a secret bargain to buy out the Water Supply Company at the exorbitant price of 81,250,000. By a happy accident the discovery of this bargain was made in time to permit the bringing of a suit to prevent its consummation, and when the case reached the General Term it was decided that the city's right to make the purchase had expired under the law. In 1892 the Legislature passed a law permitting the city to acquire the property and authorizing the appointment of a commission to appraise its value. There was some scandal in connection with the make-up of the commission, but at length the hearing was completed. and a majority of the commission-three members-decided that the company's property and frauchise were worth \$570,000. This result was hailed by the people of Brooklyn with delight. and there was keen disappointment when Judge Pratt, before whom the report of the commission came for action, decided to set aside the award. As the law was framed, grave injustice was done to the city in that, while the company had full right of appeal in the case of an adverse decision, the city had none. But this defect was remedled by a legislative act last spring and the appeal was taken, with the result made known on Friday, the award of \$570,000 being affirmed. The net money gain to the city is thus \$680,000; but the net practical gain is much larger.

These two decisions are emphatically decisions in favor of the people and against rings in which certain politicians are largely concorned. As such they possess more than a local interest. They confirm and strengthen popular confidence in the courts, which has lately been deepened by the defeat of Maynard and the election of such men as Gaynor and Gary.

### THE TAX ON CORPORATIONS.

On Thursday the Democratic quack medicine most in favor was a tax on incomes. On Friday both sectional and partisan. It leaves on the it was a whiskey tax, and some people were cerfree list all those imports which, being in com- tain that 25 cents would be added. On Saturday mon use but not produced in this country, are it was a tax on corporations, which was expectnaturally the basis of a simply revenue tariff. ed to yield \$25,000,000 or more. On Sunday some It continues the bounty system, which is Pro- hint that the whole programme will have to be tection in its most pronounced form. It re-changed this week and duties imposed on sugar, duces the revenues in the sum of \$50,000,000 or | The facilities for speculative operations in \$60,000,000, notwithstanding that the revenues stocks are unrivalled, and the man who hesitates is not lost-quite the contrary, perhaps. As nobody can tell what the decrease in revenue from changes of the tariff will be, whether \$50,000,000, as Mr. Wilson estimates, or considerably more or less, until the bill has gone through the Senate, a member of the House Committee will have some excuse for postponing his decision whether this or that new tax should be imposed.

One thing the country will understand, that a new tax is imposed only because the party in power wished to abolish or reduce duties which have been paid by foreigners for the privilege of selling in this market. The present duties on wool and ores, woollens, cotton ties and binding twine are not felt by consumers; the new tax, whatever it is, will be felt by somebody. The multitude of corporation-haters evidently inclines to the belief that a tax on corporations will be felt by fewer people than a tax on sugar, and there they are undoubtedly right. The Democratic blunder is in imagining that corporations feel when they are taxed. persons who will feel such a tax are the individuals who own shares, the individuals who are employed by the corporation and do its work, and the individuals whom the corporation charges for services rendered or products furnished.

The Democratic notion is that shareholders are rich and bloated monopolists. It is an idea worthy of a party which knows nothing the industries or the business of age. The fact is that shareholders are persons of every class and grade, the capitalist or manager who devotes both his time and his money to a business, or the smaller investors who have put in part of their savings, to the widows and children of men who left them something for their support, and the thousands of workingmen who begin their accumulation of property by acquiring some shares in the company by which they are employed. As these are the most thrifty and intelligent of the workingmen as a rule, and have most influence with others, the whole body of workingmen is likely to know what the cause is, if a tax on corporations is followed by a reduction of wages.

The corporation exists solely for the purpose of employing profitably the money of the shareone scale of wages, it will assuredly demand another. If it cannot make profits by carrying freight at half a cent per ton per mile, or it will charge more. Its taxes are part of its expenses, and an increase in the expenses has to be borne in the great majority of cases by the people who ride on the cars, or pay for the freight transported, or borrow money from a lending corporation, or obtain fire or life policies from an insurance corporation, or get dwellings built or loans from a building association, or

buy goods from a manufacturing or trading corporation. These are the people who will feel it as a rule, or else the hands employed, if a tax is laid on the business or the earnings of cor-

porations. If such a tax could be imposed upon those corporations only which have abused their privileges, fleeced the public, maintained monopolies, oppressed labor, or otherwise offended against the public good, and if these could be made to pay the tax, there would be small occasion for regret. But the very fact that a concern possesses a monopoly, or the power to fix prices or wages against the public interest, proves that it is able to throw the burden of tax upon the people to whom it sells or upon the men whom it employs. The corporations which might have to pay any such tax, to the detriment of their shareholders, are those which have not abused their privileges by creating monopolies or grasping undue powers, and which have served the public in free and open competition. To tax such corporations would be an obvious blunder, and perhaps, for that very reason, it may be expected.

### ARMY REFORMS.

Secretary Lamont, being the political diplomatist in ordinary service for the Cabinet, has not had much leisure for mastering the details of his department. His annual report contains very little fresh information respecting the administration of the Army and the practical operation of various reform measures adopted under the Harrison Administration. Such comments as the Secretary ventures to make upon the abstracts furnished by his subordinates are in the main conventional and superficial. Apart from his colorless references to the coast defences, the new magazine rifle, the experiment of employing Indian companies and the threebattalien organization for infantry, the most interesting subject discussed by him is the expediency of repealing the law limiting the maximum period of enlistment to ten years. This change he recommends with considerable emphasis, and he also favors a reduction of the period of first enlistment to three instead of

five years. The repeal of the ten-year law has been recommended by nearly all the department headquarters. By the general testimony officers in service in the West the prohibition of re-enlistment after ten years of service is unnecessary and detrimental. Men who have enlisted twice for service for five years are soned vete, ans under perfect discipline, Many of them desire to remain in the Army after ten years of active duty. They have no of the Army will be promoted by their retention. The American Army is not strong in exclusion will undoubtedly improve its quality.

tion of this system is conflicting. Many of the We are not aware, however, that the substitu tion of three for five years is favored by any of the critics of the purchase method. On the contrary, there is a general feeling among experienced officers that there is too much raw material already in the Army, and that a soldier needs to serve for at least three years before he is permanently useful. Indeed, it is largely interested in charitable works in Brook

some ambition to distinguish himself as a military reformer. We can tell him what he can do during the remainder of his term. Let him concentrate his energies upon lessening the intolerable burdens of unnecessary red tape and paper work. One of the most experienced Army officers is on record as declaring that one thousand hours are wasted every day in absolutely useless work on one class of papers alonethose relating to invoicing. The whole system of bookkeeping at Washington and the department headquarters needs to be revised and simplified. The only purpose served by the conversion of the Army into a complex circumlocution office is the employment of battalions of superfluous clerks in Washington and in every branch of the service.

### MONEY AND BUSINESS.

General uncertainty has taken command again porting of a new Tariff bill, which threatens greater changes than many Democrats had expected, would naturally produce some hesitation, just as the surprisingly heavy vote of November produced some confidence that radical changes would be avoided. Such fluctuations in opinion, and consequently in the temper of business, must be expected while the action of Congress on questions of the greatest importance sustained for railroads, which closed with an average advance of 44 cents for the week, while trust stocks closed with an average decline of \$2.18 per share for the week. Notwithstanding the small advance, the average for railroad stocks is still about as much lower than it was at the end of October, when the Silver bill passed, while the trust stocks are \$7.52 lower. The pending questions regarding sugar, lead, ordage, whiskey, cotton oil and tobacco create such opportunities for wide fluctuations that railroad stocks are much neglected, and over half the entire number of shares sold last week was of three trust stocks.

As the records for the month approach completion, it appears that there was for a time distinct evidence of improvement. The earnings of seventy-three railroads, reported by The Financial Chronicle," for the second week of the month were but 2 per cent smaller than last year, but the earnings on sixty-five railroads for the third week were 6.74 per cent smaller. The classification by "Dun's Review" shows that freight earnings decreased a shade less than in the second week, only 6.0, against 6.4 per cent for the first half of November and 11.2 per cent for October. But the increase in passenger earnings fell to 9.6 per cent, against 11.7 for the first half of November and 21.6 for October. On Eastern lines the returns show little gain for the month thus far in all earnings; on Southern lines a slight loss, and on different classes of Western roads losses ranging from 7.1 to 9.1 per cent. On the other hand, the Street urges that the railroads are now operated at a lower rate of cost because of reduction in wages, and for comparison with last year respecting the value of stocks this is true. But it does not affect conclusions respecting the volume of business.

Payments through clearing houses last week were about 40 per cent smaller than for the same week last year, because of the Thanksgiving holiday. But for that and the previous ek, embracing eleven working days in both years, the decrease was 23.3 per cent, which is more than the decrease for the three preceding weeks, and slightly more than the de crease in October. Improvement in clearings eems mainly confined to Eastern cities outside New-York. Here November showed a little greater decline than October, but at other Eastern cities a smaller decline. At the West the average continued about 22 per cent less than last year, and on the Pacific Coast nearly % per cent less, for both months, but at the uth the decrease was 17.3 per cent in November and 19.8 per cent in October. The movement of 219,000 bales more of cotton this year than in November last year has made much difference. The exports were but 22,000 bales greater, and the takings of Northern spinners 6,000 bales less, so that stocks of American cotton in sight are now but 83,000 bales less than last year at date. It is not strange that the price has weakened a shade.

Other produce markets show very small Wheat is a fraction higher, and the Western receipts last week were only 3,672,800 bushels, but the exports of wheat and flour from both coasts for five weeks, according to "Bradstreet's," have been only 13,523,350 bushels, against 18,822,176 last year. Reports that the supply is all gone and the barns empty are circulated, as usual at this season, but it is entirely safe to say that the farmers have not been selling their very last bushel of wheat at prices below 68 cents in New-York. Corn is moving very largely for the season, and price declined a shade, as also of oats. Pork declined 50 cents per barrel, and lard 30 cents per 100 pounds, with hogs unchanged. It is well that in the main speculative operations in products continue moderate, notwithstanding the cheapness of money.

Some manufacturing works have closed during the past week, and there has been one failure for \$1,000,000 in hides which may affect other houses. The hat strike at Danbury and the strike of 6,000 weavers at Olneyville still reduced wages of its hands 5 per cent, and the Cleveland Rolling Mill 12 per cent. Prior to last week there was a distinct increase in the number of hands at work and in quantities of materials taken for manufacture, and in cotton the demand for goods now keeps the works fairly busy. It is plain that the woollen mills are not two-thirds at work, although sales of wool are Berlin, Mr. Rummell, a real because in months past the mills have not taken supplies as usual for the season. The shoe factories are working over two-thirds of their capacity, and the shipments from Boston are only about 10 per cent less than last year. The iron and steel works do not appear to have increased working force during the week, nor are new contracts of any importance reported. Bessemer pig and steel billets are a shade lower at Pittsburg, and no recovery in

price is seen there or at Philadelphia. creased \$8,449,608 during the month, and about \$25,000,000 in two months, although the stock of money at New-York is by far the greatest ever known, \$197,933,200 in the associated banks The increase of circulation has been largely in gold, of which the coinage for the month was \$10,789,800. Last week the receipts from the interior by New-York banks were \$7,000,000, and the surplus reserve is now over \$76,000,000. This state of things shows very clearly the depression in business throughout the country, and if trade were either active or hopeful there would not be \$200,000,000 lying present system of purchase of disenarge. The over imports does not bring gold this way, nor testimony of Army officers respecting the opera- does cheap money get up anything more than a purely professional interest in stocks, confined to a few of the most widely fluctuating fancies.

If Mayor-elect Schieren has succeeded in inducing Mr. Alfred T. White to accept the office of Commissioner of City Works, both he and the city of Brooklyn are to be congratulated. Mr. White is one of a class of citizens who cannot often be prevailed upon to take office or to stand as candidates. He is a successful business man, a graduate of Harvard, and has been very doubtful if he can become proficient in all lyn. Mr. Schieren has made a good start in branches of cavalry drill and tactics within that | carrying out his pledge to secure for the heads We doubt very much whether the of city departments well-qualified business men, shortened period of enlistment will diminish on the same principle that he would select desertion from the Army, and that is probably superintendents of departments in his private the object which the Secretary has in mind. business, It is understood that he made the after the election. That Mr. White on reflection has decided to accept is good news indeed. The new Mayor has set a high standard, and we doubt not that he will live up to it.

> The man responsible for the recent railway horror in Italy had been on duty continuously for forty-eight hours. It is his superiors, not he, who should be brought to account and punished. Nothing but an emergency of extraordinary proportions should make such a thing possible, in Italy or any other land.

the attendance at the colleges and other institutions of learning is an interesting question. "The Educational Review" has made some inquiries on the subject, but the answers are somewhat vague and unsatisfactory. On the whole, however, it would appear that the effect has been rather less than would be expected. In fact, the presidents of Harvard, Yale, Cornell and some other large colleges can see no effect whatever; that is, none of the young men who have failed to matriculate after expressing the purpose of doing so have assigned the financial stringency as a reason for their failure. On the other hand, Professor James, of the University of Pennsylvania, thinks that, speaking generally, "financial depression, where it is not continued for too long a time, is rather favorable than otherwise to an increase of attendance at higher institutions of learning." His idea is that those who would naturally drift into business find it difficult to get places, and so are more likely to continue their studies. Fuller statistics will be needed before the truth of this theory can be tested.

### PERSONAL.

E. E. Thompson, of Fredericksburg, Va., who is walking on a wager to Bogota, South America, has arrived in the City of Mexico. One condition of his trip is that he shall carry no money with him. He has been hospitably received in Mexico, but declares that he was nearly starved in Texas.

At the Boston Schoolboys' Society's reunion last schoolboy in Boston ninety-two years ago. He is atmety-seven years old. Nobody can be a member of the society who has not been out of school a full half-century. Joseph D. Jones gave his reminiscences as a

Theodore R. Timby, now seventy-one years old and in Chicago hale and hearty, claims to have invented the revolving turret of modern navai vessels. He says that the idea came to him when a sels. He says that the idea came to him when a boy, over fifty years ago, from the first sight had of Castle William, in New-York Harbor. He took his idea to John C. Calhoun, who interested other Senators in it, and induced Mr. Timby to submit it to the chief of engineers and the chief of ordnance. A committee of Army and Navy officers a few years later decided against it on account of its cost, but Mr. Timby patented the idea in 1813 and secured a broad claim in 1862. John Palmer, the inventor of the railroad check

system, died a few days ago in a little town in Michigan. He was a fiddler years ago, and took Michigan. He was a holder years as to charge of the hats and wraps of those who came to dancing parties. He gave numbered checks for them, and some railroad men who attended one of his dances appropriated the idea, and in a little while the system was adopted all over the country. The King of Sweden has conferred the order

Spanish writer. The chief reasons given for distinguishing the author is the readiness with which he consented to the translation of his works into Swelish. The King recently decorated Henrik Ibsen with the same order.

Mr. George Hatwell, who is still living in Buffalo, aided in building the railroad from Albany to Schenectady about the year 1830, and was one of nose who rode on the engine on the train's first trial ip to the latter city. Mr. Hatwell is eighty-six ears old, and has been a resident of Buffalo for ver sixty years.

# MUSICAL COMMENT.

THE NEW POLISH PIANIST.

MR BURMEISTER AND CHOPIN'S SECOND COM. CERTO-THE FIRST SUNDAY CONCERT AT THE METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE.

There was a "revised programme" at the second

concert of Josef Slivinski on Saturday aftern and also revised programmes for the recitals which he is to give on Tuesday evening and Thursday afternoon. The revision of Saturday's programme reduced its length by three numbers, and the same purpose is obvious in the other revisions. It may e said, without claiming too much for the news paper reviewers, that the action of Mr. Slivingle or his manager was in obedience to their sugrestions the day after the first concert. Everybody knows that the reviewer is generally wrong times manages to give utterance to a whisper of the divine voice. When a large fraction of audience leaves a concert-room before the pro-gramme is two-thirds played, it is a proof either that the performer has failed to please or the programme is too long. It would not do for management to confess the first proposition; so we credit Mr. Palmer with having recognized that the public do not want to exhaust the literature of the pianoforte at a single sitting. If they are so much impressed by the genius of a player they can afford to hear a second concert, or even a third. The tendency illustrated by Mr. Slivinski's first two programmes is a growing one, and is an indi-cation of a change which was long ago noticed by the discerning. It is the outcome of that dreadful thing for which the newspapers have been obliged to employ the equally dreadfur term "vir-The pianoforte having become a thing of rigid steel, enduring tons of strain from its strings and having a voice like the roar of many waters, players upon it have become athletes with "Thews of Anakim

#### And pulses of a Titan's heart."

They care no more for sweet murmurs made to bless unless in the way of contrast, but seek to continue, but the Reading Iron Company has astound, amaze, bewilder and confound with feat of skill and of endurance. That with their devotion to the purely mechanical side of the art they are likely to kill planoforte playing is something they never seem to think of, or at least to care The era which they illustrate and adore is the technical era which was, is and always will be in saccula sacculorum the era of decay and death in true, artistic production. Recently in again larger than for the same week last year, good art, but as a player wanting in charm of expression, compelled by the bent of his nature to lift the physical and intellectual elements above the emotional, played three planoforte concertos at a sitting. His purpose, doubtless, was to compel professional and popular attention. Mr. Slivinski's attempt on last Thursday evening and Saturday afternoon was of the same nature. Primarily, it was designed to disclose the extraordinary character of his physical powers as developed in the technical department of pianoforte playing; secondarily, it was to make a record.

The disclaimer which will come from the player The supply of currency in circulation has in- may be indignant or couched in the terms of inured innocence and modesty; but the impression as if his aim was to speak as movingly, at truthfully, as eloquently and as charmingly the utterances of the composers of the music. We can well believe that if it were possihe would be willing to emulate the example said that he won his greatest triumph by playing a piece to the end with great brilliancy after he had lost the mouthpiece of his instrument through too vigorous blowing. Exactly how this was acdished the ancient chronicler of the incident neglected to mention, but his story can be accepted as veracious, if for no other reason than that it listment will involve the abandonment of the lidle in one city. The heavy excess of exports throws a strong light on the decadence of the public taste in the period when "virtuosity" dominant in the art of the Greeks. Now, though the public of New-York and to-day are a little prone to aemire technique for technique's sake, being only human, after all, they have been kept so familiar with its development, by its best exemplars, that it is no longer an easy thing to startle or bewilder them.

or bewilder them.

"Every planist has technique nowadays," say they, and he must be a wonder, indeed, who can disturb their critical equilibrium by mere digital feats. They want strength and velocity of finger to be coupled with strength, velocity and penetration of thought; they want no haiting or lisping in the proclamation of what the composer has said, but they want the contents of his thought presented to them; not the holiow shell, however distinctly its outlines may be drawn; they want the spirit which vitalizes music, not its externals only. It is because Mr. Slivinski gives them too little of the poetry of music, not little of its soul to command their warmest admiration. For his mechanical equipment they must have proper respect, though even here he has made them grieve, because of the manner in which at times he has misapplied it. His tone is too often merely glittering. For crispness and sharpness of outline he seems willing to sacrifice superior things, such as symmetry and repose.

At their hest his tones are never saturated with

seems willing to sacrifice superior things, such symmetry and repose.

At their best his tones are never saturated with loveliness of color and that indescribable quality which is the vehicle of emotionality. Many of the things which are possible through the mastery of technical devices he does marvellously well, but they present themselves to the consciousness of his listeners as mechanical products. So those soft tones which Paderewski, De Pachmann and Joseffy bring out by a caressing touch of the keys, which has the clinging tenderness of a kiss; so also his legato. Both of these devices of expressive uttrances betray the use of the pedal in a maner and a degree that can never be overlooked by the judicious. It may be, it is certainly much to be hoped, that Mr. Slivinski may compei a modification of this judgment when he comes to play his recitals, but what has been said above is the general impression left by his performances last Thursday evening and Saturday afternoon.

At the Damrosch popular concerts Saturday afternoon and last night Mr. Richard Burmeister, of Baltimore, both interested and delighted the lovers of Chopin's planeforte concerto in F by bringing forward that work with a new orchestral accompaniment of his own composition. The task, of the cessity of which planists have long been convinced, Mr. Burmeister has accomplished in a manner that reflects much credit on his discretion as well as his character as a devoted student and lover of Chopin's genius. He has avoided the example of Tausig, who in the orchestral part with which he tricked out the E-minor concerto of the same composer overloaded it, to the destruction of a great deal of its characteristic spirit. Mr. Burmeister has been even more discreet than his predecessor. Klindworth, though he has added a few dashes of color, especially in the last movement, which at a first hearing are apt to give a start of surprise to those familiar with the work As a whole, the new orchestral parts are an adornment to the concerto. For his own use Mr. Bur-meister has made a few changes in the text of the solo instrument, to increase its sonority and brill-iancy, and has introduced a cadenza of real beauty and effectiveness. His changes, however, do not depend for their effect on the added instrumental parts, and planists who wish to use the latter may do so without departing from the text of the sold Mr. Burmeister played the concerto in a refined

The Sunday-night concerts projected by Messra. Abbey and Grau had an auspicious beginning at the Metropolitan Opera House last night. In spite of the rain, the audience was as numerous as on the third opera night, and inspiritingly hearty in its expressions of appreciation. The circumstance was fortunate, for there was much in the atmospheric conditions to act depressingly upon perpheric conditions to act depressingly upon performers as well as listeners. Mr. Seidl's admirers and the lovers of orchestral music were numerously represented, and their applause was as generous, if not quite so indiscriminate, as that of those who had come to hear the operatic artists sing. These latter were Mme. Arnoldson, Mile. Caive, Mme, Nordica and M. Plancon, the last of whom carried off the bulk of the evening's guerdons, though he was compelled, to his evident disappointment, to sing his air from "Reine de Saba" to planoforte accompaniment, Mme. Arnoldson sang the walts from "Dinorah" and harvested an undeserved recail, probably because of her pretty face and manners, for it is scarcely to be thought that anybody would want to reward such imperfect vocalization. Mile. Caive, so nervous that it affected the purity of her intonation for a time, sang Mascagni's setting of the "Cavalleria Rusticana" as an "Ave Maria." and afterward the Mysoll song from "La Perle du Bresil." In this pretty bit of music she charmed by the excellence of her vocalization as effectually as she did by her impassioned dramatic singing in the opera last Wednesday. Her triumph was correspondingly great, Mme. Nordica sang the familiar air from Gounod's "La Reine de Saba," and sang it well. Mr. Seidl conducted the orchetral numbers and Mile, Calve's first sole, and Louis Saar the other accompaniments. formers as well as listeners. Mr.

### MRS. POLLOCK RECOVERS HER DIAMONDS.

Atlantic City, N. J., Dec. 3.-A Mrs. Pollock, of New-York, who was staying at a prominent hotel here, was recently robbed of \$2,000 worth of dis-At the same time \$140 in cash was